



OSC Community News

Operations Systems Center

December 2007

Canadian Coast Guard Visits OSC's LRIT Team



The Canadian Coast Guard met with the OSC's Long Range Identification

Tracking (LRIT) project team to look at enhancing Search And Rescue, environmental, and security efforts that could have international implications.

For three days, the group looked at issues relative to establishing a data

(See SOLAS page 2)

GIS Team Shares Love of Geography with North Jefferson 5th Graders

Five members of OSC's Geographic information Systems (GIS) team stepped outside the box when they approached 5th grade teachers to discuss celebrating GIS day together.



NJE students learn about the world and geography

The result was LTJG Courtney Harrison and his team conducting a geography poster contest with the GIS team as judges.

Team members Max Squires, Dan Miller, Darcey DiMenna, and Randy Sine described the entries as "stellar".

Dan Miller shared the various aspects of the field of geography including an aerial image of his hometown, illustrating his route to high school.

The team's effort didn't end when they left the school after presenting the awards.

(See GIS page 3)

Bake Sale Raises \$300 for North Jefferson Elementary

OSC kicked off the 2007—2008 Partnership in Education program by hosting a bake sale with proceeds benefiting North Jefferson Elementary School.



Who could say No !



Both Annex I and Annex II hosted students who lined tables with an assortment of brownies, cookies, and other baked goods for OSC employees' consumption.

(See Sale page 2)

Employees Share Christmas Spirit with Coast Guard Cutter Crew

OSC's Christmas Spirit was alive as members responded to MSTC Jerome Lockwood's call for a Christmas

Care package on behalf of the crew of USCGC Wrangell.

OSC responded with snacks, candy, decorations, and other items.

The 22-member crew is on patrol as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

As you share with your family and friends over the holidays, remember those who remain standing watch around the world.



Care package items collected for the CGC Wrangell

Admiral Allen Announces A Record year for Drug Seizures

Coast Guard Commandant Adm. Thad Allen recently announced that the Coast Guard seized a record of more than

350,000 pounds of cocaine at sea this year with an estimated street value of \$4.7 billion.

He said this has resulted in a reduced supply of cocaine in more than 35 major cities throughout the United States.

He attributed success directly to the

(See seizure page 3)



A CGC Sherman crewman inspects part of a 20-ton cocaine seizure.

OSC Gets Spooky at Kids' Halloween Party

A special tour of Frankenstein's laboratory was one of the highlights of OSC's Kids' Halloween party in October.

Feeling their way through the dark "halls" of the lab, this tour was not for the faint of heart as they encountered mummies' teeth, worms, and other eerie discoveries.

The youngsters were treated to the Trick-or-Treat Trail decorated with ghoulish decorations and spiders. But in the end, those who braved the spooky trail were treated with candy and treats.

(See Halloween page 3)



Super heros at OSC's Kids' Halloween party

Who is this Celebrity Who Enlisted In the Coast Guard As a Yoeman ?

Born in Youngstown, Ohio, this celebrity started playing golf when he was 3.

In 1947 he entered Wake Forest University.

In 1950, he enlisted in the Coast Guard as a Yoeman while continuing to play golf. He served until 1953.

He was the first golfer to earn over \$1 million in prize tournament money.



Arnold Palmer

Employee Reads Aloud For WV Read to Me Day

OSC's Cheryl Reckner responded to an opportunity to model positive attitudes towards reading books for children.

She read to students at Eagle School Intermediate as part of West Virginia's "Read to Me Day".

The program helps children increase their listening skills, learn new vocabulary, and be exposed to a wide variety of books.



Sale (cont)

The bake sale is one of numerous events that are part of OSC's Partnership in Education program that has provided volunteers, furniture, equipment, and funds from occasional fund-raisers.

OSC Employees Roll Up Their Sleeves And Save Lives



Despite cases of illness and a host of medical reasons, walk-in donors rallied to help overcome a potential donor deficit during OSC's November blood drive.

Steve Munson, OSC's blood drive coordinator, sent out a hearty THANK YOU to everyone who walked in without appointments allowing OSC to exceed our 35 unit goal and allowing the Red Cross to walk away with 37 units.

OSC folks also contribute by donating canteen items. This drive was no exception as the canteen overflowed with good snacks.

OSC just conducted a blood drive at press time in December with the next one set for Tuesday, February, 12th. -- *mark your calendars Now!* There is always a critical need for blood

Way to go OSC!!!

SOLAS (Cont'd)

exchange for sharing vessel data across international boundaries.

Starting with a Canadian/united States exchange, the plan is expected to broaden the exchange to the international community.

This effort is in response to a mandate from the International Maritime Organization's Safety Of Life At Sea (SOLAS) treaty. The initial SOLAS document was adopted in 1914 in response to the Titanic Disaster.

The Revenue Cutter Service, the Lighthouse Service, the Steamboat Inspection Service, the Bureau of Navigation, and the Lifesaving Service, were all united under one umbrella. They were given the name Coast Guard in 1915.

<http://www.uscg.mil/history/faqs/when.html>

OSC Exceeds Combined Federal Campaign Goal

OSC employees were challenged to "Bring out the hero in you" in the 2007 Combined Federal Campaign.



The hero in OSC employees did shine as they exceeded their goal by 34%. Connie Champion, CFC Coordinator, said employees contributed \$11,652 with the Eastern Panhandle goal set at \$137,000.

CFC is the only authorized solicitation of employees in the Federal workplace on behalf of charitable organizations.

First Annual USCG OSC/NMC Chief's Mess Golf Tournament

The Chief's Mess provided a fall fun-filled golfing event that raised \$936 to benefit the CAPT Caliendo College Fund and general Mess activities.

The tournament took place at Stonebridge Club and was open to all OSC and NMC members and their families.



The day's event wrapped up with an awards ceremony and dinner.

The following winners were recognized at the end of the day:

- First place—Toby Harding and Jimmy Carpenter
- Second Place—Garland Roach and David Tate
- Got Your Moneys Worth—Wyatt Webb and Joe Cooper
- Longest Drive — Phillip Fowler

Halloween (cont'd)

Other activities included crafts such as decorating mini pumpkins with stickers, Halloween-themed art work, and creating ghost and bat decorations.



Some crafty kids at OSC's Halloween Party

Over 142 adults and kids were treated to pizza and dinks provided by OSC's morale Committee.

The evening was possible thanks to OSC volunteers and their donations of baked goods, candy, and time.

For more kid's picture's, click [here](#).

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Halloween is for Big Kids Too

Kids don't have all the fun at Halloween... especially at OSC.

A few OSC employees proved that as they dressed on the lighter side for the occasion.

Passing through the halls of OSC, you could have encountered Lex Luther and Superman or numerous other characters.

This isn't the wicked Witch of the West, Dorothy. This upper photo is Marsh Townsend.



Creativity was not at a loss with such characters as "Pin-up" Lady—aka Shirley Verbisk.



Shirley Verbisk as "Pin-up-Lady"

Click [here](#) for more OSC Halloween employee pictures.

Coast Guard And Walt Disney

In 1942 the commanding officer of Coast Guard Cutter 83359, an anti-submarine patrol "sub-chaser" based out of Staten Island, New York, asked Disney to draw an insignia for his vessel. He suggested "Pluto the Pup, Dumbo, [or] Oswald the Rabbit, clutching a can of T.N.T." and riding a sea horse. His creation is pictured here.



Walt Disney's creation for the Coast Guard

Source—
http://www.uscg.mil/history/faqs/Disney_83359.html

OSC Ski Club Boots Up

Do you enjoy skiing, snowboarding or snow tubing?



Recent snow announced the beginning of another winter sport season and you are invited to join fellow OSC employees on the slopes of Whitetail Mountain, Ski Liberty, and Ski Round Top.

OSC Ski club offers Night Season Passes to all three resorts for a great time of fun on the slopes.

For further information, see Mark Dorosh or [call him at extension 3803](#).

Seizure (con't)

efforts of Coast Guard men and women "...doing the hard things required by those who guard our coasts." He added, "You demonstrate the honor, respect and devotion of duty that ensures America's parents can sleep a little more soundly knowing the Coast Guard is on patrol."

He vowed to "... continue to tighten the web of detection and interdiction". The Coast Guard seized over 2 million pounds of cocaine in the last ten years.

GIS (cont'd)

Max Squires plans to enter a "geo-referenced collage" of all projects into a contest at next years Environmental Systems Research Institute International Users Conference



OSC's Darcey DiMenna, LTJG Courtney Harrison, Randy Sine, and Dan Miller

The students were excited to learn that the conference is billed as the largest GIS conference in the world, and is expecting over 10,000 geographers from over 120 countries.

GIS Day is observed each year with the purpose of promoting geographic literacy in schools, communities, and organizations. Geography Awareness Week was signed into law by President Reagan in 1987.

GIS Day at North Jefferson Elementary